

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-06 OIC-02 PA-01 PRS-01 ACDA-07 DHA-02 /054 W

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R 061740Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8672

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONSON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSU OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VALETTA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 10867

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJ: DRAFT DECLARATION ON FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES GOVERNING

THE USE OF THE MASS MEDIA IN STRENGTHENING PEACE AND INTER-

NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND IN COMBATING WAR PROPAGANDA,

RACISM AND APARTHEID

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REF: ROME 10151

1. WE PURSUED SUBJECT OF DRAFT UNECSO MASS MEDIA RESOLUTION ON JULY 6 WITH MFA OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR UN AFFAIRS FERRABOSCHI (REFTEL).

2. FERRABOSCHI SUMMARIZED CURRENT GOI STANCE ON CURRENT DRAFT RESOLUTION AS KEEPING ALL OPTIONS OPEN BUT ONE, THE EXCEPTION BEING SUPPORT OF THE DRAFT IN ITS PRESENT FORM. HE AGREED WITH US ESTIMATE THAT RESOLUTION IS ALMOST CERTAIN OF APPROVAL AT UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI THIS FALL UNLESS SIDETRACKED. THE PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IS HOW BEST TO DO THAT. HE ASKED IF USG HAD CONSIDERED SEEKING TO AMEND PRESENT DRAFT, EXPLAINING THAT GOI IS THINKING OF "AMENDMENTS IN DEPTH". EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT PRESENT DRAFT IS SO FUNDAMENTALLY FLAWED THAT THERE SEEMS TO BE NO POSSIBILITY OF PRODUCING AN ACCEPTABLE TEXT VIA AMENDMENT PROCESS. USG FEELS IT NECESSARY TO GET BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD, TO PREPARE AN ACCEPTABLE DRAFT AROUND WHICH ADVOCATES OF FREE-FLOW CAN RALLY AND WHICH WOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT RATIONALE TO INHIBIT OR PREVENT CONSIDERATION OF CURRENT TEXT AT GC. HE GRASPED THE POINT BUT LEFT EMBOFF WITH IMPRESSION THAT ITALIAN DELEGATION TO UNESCO WILL BE, OR IS, EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES OF "AMENDMENT IN DEPTH".

3. FERRABOSCHI EVINCED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN POSSIBLE DRAFT FROM COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S MASS MEDIA COMMITTEE AND PROMISED TO LOOK INTO IT, COMMENTING THAT THERE SHOULD BE A GOOD ALTERNATIVE DRAFT TEXT IN OUR HIP-POCKETS IN ANY EVENT.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF CONTENTS AND STATUS OF DRAFT TEXT UNDER PREPARATION IN COUNCIL OF EUROPE FOR USE AS REQUIRED WITH MFA, WHICH CURRENTLY IS AS MUCH IN THE DARK AS WE ON THIS SUBJECT. VOLPE

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